acid, provided that no more than 10% of the amino acid residues in the sequence are so changed; and

f) the complement of any of said nucleic acid molecules.

6. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleotide sequence of a naturally occurring allelic nucleic acid variant.

7. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5 that encodes a variant polypeptide, wherein the variant polypeptide has the polypeptide sequence of a naturally occurring polypeptide variant.

8. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises a single nucleotide polymorphism encoding said variant polypeptide.

9. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of

a) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7;

b) a nucleotide sequence wherein one or more nucleotides in the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 is changed from that selected from the group consisting of the chosen sequence to a different nucleotide provided that no more than 15% of the nucleotides are so changed;

c) a nucleic acid fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7; and

d) a nucleic acid fragment wherein one or more nucleotides in the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 is changed from that selected from the group consisting of the chosen sequence to a different nucleotide provided that no more than 15% of the nucleotides are so changed.

10. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5, wherein said nucleic acid molecule hybridizes under stringent conditions to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 or a complement of said nucleotide sequence.

11. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence in which any nucleotide specified in the coding sequence of the chosen nucleotide sequence is changed from that selected from the group consisting of the chosen sequence to a different nucleotide provided that no more than 15% of the nucleotides in the chosen coding sequence are so changed, an isolated second polynucleotide that is a complement of the first polynucleotide, or a fragment of any of them.

12. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 11.

13. The vector of claim 12, further comprising a promoter operably linked to said nucleic acid molecule.

14. A cell comprising the vector of claim 12.

30. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33. A kit comprising in one or more containers, the pharmaceutical composition of claim 30.

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44. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 38-1717 of SEQ ID NO: 7.

45 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 44 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

46. (New) A kit comprising in one or more containers, the pharmaceutical composition of claim 45.

47. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 382-631 of SEQ ID NO: 7.

48 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 47

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

49. (New) A kit comprising in one or more containers, the pharmaceutical composition of claim 48.

50. (New) (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 970-1525 of SEQ ID NO: 7.

51 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 50 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

52. (New) A kit comprising in one or more containers, the pharmaceutical composition of claim 51.